

Beyond Activities

- **Comparing Aircraft**

Compare the type of airplane Ruth Law flew in 1916 to the Space Shuttle (orbiter) Commander Eileen Collins flies in 1999.

- **Historical Aviation Commemoration**

Students (in groups or individually) can commemorate Ruth Law's feat of aviation by creating and displaying one of the following:

- Postage stamp
- Poster
- Banner
- Poem
- Statue
- Flight Patch
- Song
- Dance

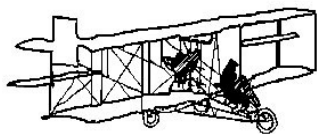
- **Commander Collins Thrills a Nation**

The class participates in re-writing the Ruth Law story so that it gives an account of the space shuttle mission STS-93 with Commander Eileen Collins as the main character.

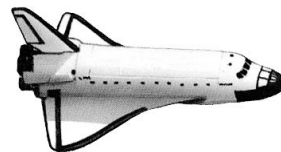


Comparing the Aircraft

Ruth Law's Airplane



Commander Collin's Orbiter



**Name 3 ways these 2 aircraft
are similar.**

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the student to write three ways the two aircraft are similar.

**Name 3 ways these 2 aircraft
are different.**

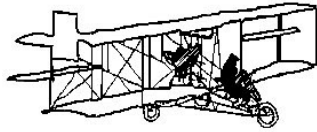
In what way?

A rectangular box with a black border, intended for the student to write the first difference between the two aircraft.A rectangular box with a black border, intended for the student to write the second difference between the two aircraft.

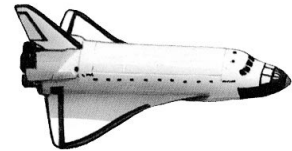
Comparing the Aircraft

Key of Possible Answers

Ruth Law's Airplane



Commander Collin's Orbiter



Name 3 ways these 2 aircraft are similar.

*Both use the 4 forces to fly.
(Lift, Weight, Thrust, Drag).*

Both have wings.

Both have a tail section.

Both can fly at subsonic speed.

Both are piloted by a woman.

Name 3 ways these 2 aircraft are different.

In what way?

low subsonic only

one small engine

53 gallon capacity

open

in low altitude

flight speed

engines

fuel tanks

cockpit

flight elevation

*hypersonic speed to
subsonic*

*2 engine systems, plus
main engine*

much more than that

closed

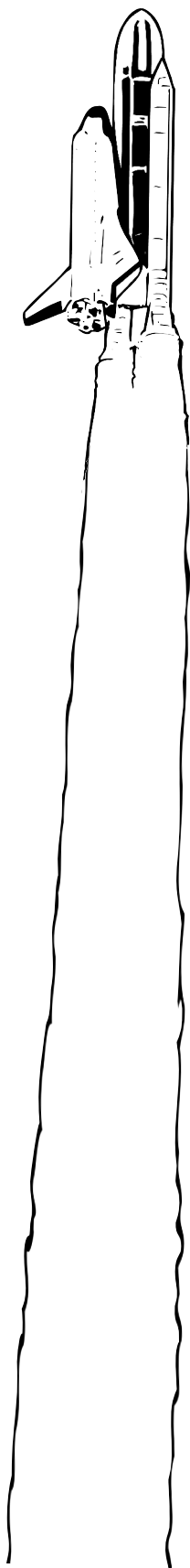
space on down

Historical Aviation Commemoration Student Guidesheet

Directions: You are all members of the Historical Aviation Society and on November 19th of this year you will sponsor a “Ruth Law Day” to commemorate the anniversary of her historic flight. You will need some items to display that will reflect upon the accomplishment as well as honor it. In groups or individually, pick an item from the list below (or make up one of your own). Then, make a plan for how you will create it. Include in your plan a list of materials, and the steps you will take to make it happen. Finally, get to work on it!

Commemoration Displays

- Create a commemorative postage stamp that includes the following: her image, her airplane and the date.
- Create a poster announcing her feat. Include the following information: her image, her airplane, the accomplishment and the date.
- Create a commemoration banner that includes the following information: a stylistic logo that conveys her image and her airplane, the date.
- Create a poem (any style of your choosing) and draw a picture to go with it.
- Compose a song (a ballad) that tells the story of Ruth Law’s flight.
- Create a sculpture (make it from household items or recyclable materials like paper towel rolls, wire, cans, plastic cups, plastic containers, etc.) that represents Ruth Law’s accomplishment. Give it an appropriate title.
- Look at examples of flight patches used for previous shuttle missions as well as mission STS-93. Create a flight patch that depicts Ruth Law’s accomplishment.
- Find a likeness of Ruth Law and create a statue.
- Choose an instrumental piece of music and create a dance that honors Ruth Law’s flight.



Divide the class into partners or trios so that you have 13 small groups. Assign each small group two face-to-face pages of the story. Tell the class that they will be re-writing the story about Ruth Law, turning it into a story about Commander Eileen Collins' historic flight. Instruct them to re-write the text using the same style and then illustrate the text (by drawing, painting or using a computer software program for illustrations).

On (the mission's date goes here), Eileen Collins commanded the shuttle mission STS-93 into space and back to earth.

Space shuttle missions had never been commanded before by a woman.

It was a crisp, clear morning. Commander Collins and her crew were awakened before dawn, but Eileen was not sleepy. To get used to the early mornings and the long days of hard work, she had trained for many years at NASA.

